FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Stewart Selected to Participate in Harvard Public Health Training

John Stewart, research associate with the Division of Health and Family Studies at USC’s Institute for Families in Society has been accepted as a participant in the Public Health Disparities Geocoding Project Training Course at the Harvard School of Public Health to be held June 15-16, 2006. He is one of 30 applicants selected out of 200.

The participants were choosen to reflect the best combination of relevant experience, expertise, and interest in researching socioeconomic disparities in health while at the same time fulfilling the goal of assembling a diverse mix of academic researchers, health department staff, post-doctoral fellows, and graduate students.

The aim of the training course is to educate population health researchers and data analysts in concepts, methods, and approaches to geocoding public health data, generating census-derived area-based socioeconomic measures, and using these data to investigate and monitor social disparities in health.

Mr. Stewart (MS, Geography / Geographic Information Processing; MPH, Epidemiology, University of South Carolina) serves as a geographic information systems (GIS) analyst at the Institute. His expertise includes geographic information processing, spatial statistical analysis, spatial programming, and community needs and resource assessment. He uses spatial databases to map and analyze demographic, economic, health, and social factors that influence the well-being of families. He is particularly interested in rural dynamics, social justice, and minority health issues.

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